

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SHERWOOD OAKS

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th anniversary of Sherwood Oaks, a nonprofit continuing care retirement community located in Cranberry Township, Pennsylvania.

This Silver Anniversary is not only noteworthy in itself, but the story behind Sherwood Oaks is quite extraordinary. Sherwood Oaks was created by a handful of unpaid "ordinary" Pittsburgh-area seniors who, in seeking a community in which they themselves wanted to live, turned a farmers' field into what has since evolved into a vibrant senior living community of some 400 residents.

These determined and ambitious dreamers—Sally Dewees, Martha Leonard, Jane T. Locke and Margaret McCoy—did their homework by researching communities in the area and around the country, and, in order to make their vision a reality, enthusiastically spread their ideas within the community.

On September 1, 1982, the founders and the construction board—Norman and Sally Dewees; Frank and Betty Hess; Jean and Craig Stockdale; Dorothy Van der Vort; and Richard McCoy—realized the fruits of their labor when Sherwood Oaks officially opened its doors to its original 53 residents.

I want to thank Paul Winkler, the president and CEO of Presbyterian SeniorCare for bringing this story to my attention. Paul serves as the board chair of PANPHA, an association of some 360 nonprofit senior service providers throughout Pennsylvania, and I have asked him to convey my best wishes to the Sherwood Oaks community when he represents PANPHA at a celebratory event scheduled for Friday, September 28.

EXPANDING AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1852) to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to use risk-based pricing to more effectively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes:

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Chairman, I rise today to speak in favor of H.R. 1852, the Expanding American Homeownership Act of 2007. Section 29 of this bill is designed to clarify congressional intent regarding certain properties that entered the HUD property dis-

position process prior to the enactment of the Deficit Reduction Act but where the initial proposed disposition was delayed. An example of one such project is Parkview Apartments in Ypsilanti, Michigan. While I believe that this particular project is already subject to the grandfathering provision of the DRA, Section 29 clarifies that such properties should be considered "pre-DRA" properties, and that HUD should proceed with its prior disposition contracts as to those properties. This clarification was requested by HUD and, in drafting this provision, we were assisted by HUD staff and were assured that this language was the clarification the agency needed to proceed with the 2004 contract as to Parkview Apartments.

HONORING MR. CARL ULLRICH

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise before you to honor Mr. Carl Ullrich for his induction into the Army Sports Hall of Fame, his service to our nation in the U.S. Navy during World War II and the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean Conflict, his lifetime of service to our Nation's student athletes, and as the patriarch of a remarkable and respected family.

Following his combat tour in Korea, Mr. Ullrich embarked on a life devoted to leading, teaching and coaching with an energy and effectiveness that would profoundly and positively influence the lives of tens of thousands of young men and women and their families. For more than a half century, Mr. Ullrich was an exemplar of integrity, accountability and decency at the Friends Academy in New York, Irvington High School and Newark Academy in New Jersey, Cornell University, Columbia University, Boston University, Sanford Naval Academy, the United States Naval Academy, Western Michigan University, the United States Military Academy, The Patriot League and St. Andrews Presbyterian College. He has been an ideal steward of the spirit of intercollegiate athletics as envisioned by President Theodore Roosevelt when he established the Intercollegiate Athletic Association of the United States in 1906. Just as President Roosevelt wrote to his children, "I don't want you to sacrifice standing well in your studies to any over-athleticism; and I need not tell you that character counts for a great deal more than either intellect or body in winning success in life," so too did Carl Ullrich impress those same values on his children, two generations of student athletes, and many who administer and legislate intercollegiate athletics. It is important to note that some of those student athletes have carried Mr. Ullrich's ideals with them as they served with great courage in our armed forces. For that alone, he deserves our sincerest thanks and appreciation.

However, greatest of all his many accomplishments is his family. His wife Becky is his

partner, friend, and guiding light for over fifty-four years. His daughters Julie Anderson and Kathy Donovan are mothers, key members of their communities and accomplished women. His sons Rick, Tom and Mike have carried on their father's commitment to family, honor and country. His son-in-law Walt Donovan served our Navy for thirty years. He is the proud grandfather to Kelly Meissner, Ben Anderson, Alex Ullrich, Andrew Ullrich, Ned Ullrich, Liam Donovan, Courtney Donovan, Rebecca Ullrich, Chris Ullrich, Taylor Ullrich, Rachel Ullrich, and Jacob Ullrich; and great grandfather to Lisa and Cara Meissner.

Madam Speaker, it is especially fitting that Carl Ullrich was chosen to be inducted into the Army Sports Hall of Fame at this time. With our nation at war and our society too often distracted by the excesses of some professional athletes, the leadership at West Point is to be commended for allowing us all a moment to reflect on the achievements of an individual who embodies all that is good and right in our country.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHARLES VANIK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of one of our former colleagues, Congressman Charlie Vanik. For 26 years, he was an admirable spokesman not only for the people of his district, but for the Nation.

During his time in office, Congressman Vanik was one of Congress's most vocal advocates for human rights. In 1974, he co-authored an amendment to a trade law that required the United States to assess the human rights records of foreign countries before granting them special privileges. This law put pressure on the Soviet Union to allow freer emigration, and as a result, more than 2 million people were able to leave the Soviet Union in search of a better life.

While he was a Member of Congress, he never forgot where he came from or the people he represented. During his time in office he helped to pass several Federal programs, including the Federal school lunch program, that would help the people in his district and throughout the country improve their livelihoods. In addition, he is remembered by his former colleagues as a savvy, gifted speaker who had the ability to make every person in a room smile.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering the life of Congressman Charlie Vanik. May he rest in peace, and may his service to his country and to this body always be remembered honorably. He is survived by his wife, Betty; his son, Jon; his daughter, Phyllis; and two grandchildren.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

INTRODUCING THE HIGHER EDUCATION SUSTAINABILITY ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce, along with my colleague Representative VERN EHLERS, the "Higher Education Sustainability Act of 2007." This legislation authorizes funding for sustainability programs in American colleges and universities to develop, implement, and evaluate economic, environmental, and social sustainability programs. The legislation also directs the Secretary of Education to convene a summit of higher education experts to showcase best practices in the field of sustainability.

Hundreds of U.S. cities and companies as well as international agencies, including the United Nations and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, are advancing sustainable practices in all arenas. As population growth, urban development and extreme weather incidents place greater stress on ecosystems around the globe; the need for developing innovative approaches to sustainable development becomes critical to our economic competitiveness, environmental health, and the strength of our communities.

The "Higher Education Sustainability Act" would facilitate the development of programs that keep American students on the cutting edge of technology and global competition while benefiting our communities. The legislation also provides funds to establish rigorous benchmarks for evaluating programs, ensuring that sustainability graduates meet industry standards for best practices. With the threat of global warming looming larger every day, we must invest now in the research and human capital needed to address its impacts and sustain our economy and our communities.

IN HONOR OF MIKE TORIGIANI

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Mike Torigiani of Buttonwillow, California for receiving the 2007 Agriculturist of the Year Award from the Kern County Fair. His dedication to young participants of 4-H and Future Farmers of America among other activities make Mike Torigiani most deserving of this honor.

Mike Torigiani was born in Kern County in 1943 during World War II. Son of Gino and Olympia Torigiani, Mike attended Buttonwillow Elementary School and graduated from Shafter High School. Immediately following high school, Mr. Torigiani attended Bakersfield College for two years, after which he began his farming career.

Mr. Torigiani formed a partnership with his uncle Oliver entitled O & M Farms. After 3 years of farming in that partnership, he decided to join his father and brother in business. Mr. Torigiani and his brother, Ron Torigiani, own and operate Torigiani Farms, which is a third generation business established in 1970.

Mr. Torigiani has served as President of the Buttonwillow Chamber of Commerce and is an active member of the Buttonwillow Lions Club. In 1975, Mr. Torigiani was named as Buttonwillow's Honorary Mayor. He has served on the Kern County Fair Beef Board for over twenty years and, serving in this capacity, he has enjoyed every moment he has been affiliated with the Junior Livestock at the Kern County Fair. Mr. Torigiani has shown his interest and dedication through countless hours helping young people raise livestock for the Kern County Fair.

Mr. Torigiani married Sandy Bulluomini in 1965 and together they have two sons, Steve, who is an attorney and partner in Young Wooldridge Law Firm, and Jim, who is an entomologist with Western Farm Service. His grandchildren, Tyler and Mia, are the light of his life and he looks forward to sharing the joy and tradition of the Kern County Fair with them.

The leadership and commitment Mr. Torigiani has shown to the Kern County Fair and the Kern County youth has never wavered. He personifies a man of principle and integrity. Mike Torigiani is a role model for all of us and it is with great pride that I congratulate him for receiving this distinguished award and for all that he does for Kern County residents.

2007 SEA OTTER AWARENESS WEEK

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the 5th Annual Sea Otter Awareness Week, September 23–29, 2007, sponsored by Defenders of Wildlife. This week-long event provides the opportunity to educate the broader public about sea otters, their natural history, the integral role that sea otters play in the near-shore marine ecosystem, and the conservation issues they are facing.

In the past, the killing of these animals for their fur brought their numbers down to less than 100 by the 1930s. The decline of southern sea otter populations not only has impacts on the species itself, but also affects other marine populations and the surrounding ecosystem. For instance, the demise of sea otters allows their prey sea urchins to proliferate unchecked, which leads to the alarming overgrazing of kelp beds—one of the ocean's nursery grounds for many marine animals. In particular, research shows that the absence of sea otters has a direct link to the sharp decline of kelp along portions of California's coast. Sea otter research also has proven to be an effective method of monitoring toxins and diseases in the marine environment, both of which can affect the health of humans and other wildlife.

The presence of the California sea otter has become an icon of the State's coastal environment and culture, and these charismatic animals bring significant tourism revenue to Californian coastal communities. Protecting them is not only directly advantageous to the otter population, but also fosters indirect benefits on a greater scale.

Groups such as Defenders of Wildlife, Friends of the Sea Otter, The Otter Project, and The Ocean Conservancy have raised public awareness and helped protect this important species under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. Due to these efforts, the southern sea otter population has increased to more than 2,800 animals.

However, these numbers are still significantly less than what is necessary to consider the population stable and their population growth in recent years is slower than expected. Researchers are beginning to identify indirect hazards for sea otters such as non-point source pollution, pathogens, and entrapment in fisheries gear that are causing their population growth to slow. Such realizations support the need for continued research and preventive measures to respond to these issues, while continuing to ward against the direct killings/takings that still occur.

California has taken the first step toward addressing these emerging concerns by signing into law California Assembly Bill 2485, which establishes a State fund for sea otter conservation. This year Californians had the option of donating a portion of their tax returns to sea otter conservation. To date, this has raised \$145,000.

However, this is a federally protected species and the State cannot go it alone. In addition to working with my colleagues to secure Federal funds to support a continued and complete recovery of the population, I am also introducing the Southern Sea Otter Recovery and Research Act today. This bill provides for research and recovery programs for the southern sea otter.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the many accomplishments of Defenders of Wildlife and other non-profit environmental organizations, working with the Monterey Bay Aquarium, researchers, fishermen, State and Federal agencies, schools, and many other institutions and individuals, who devote tremendous effort to protect and recover the southern/California sea otter. Sea Otter Awareness Week is just one of their many activities geared towards honoring and saving this species, and I am proud to be associated with this vital work.

NEVER HURT SOMEONE YOU LOVE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, for too many people in this country, love comes with bruises, broken bones, and black eyes. Twenty years ago, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. In the past 20 years, there are programs, education, and funding dedicated to preventing domestic violence, but domestic violence is still a dangerous reality for too many Americans. One in every four women will be a victim of domestic violence during her lifetime. But domestic violence doesn't discriminate—it affects everyone—men, women, and children of every race, ethnicity, religion, and economic status. It affects the workplace, increases health care costs, and spurs even more violence among children who witness it at home. The cost of domestic violence is staggering—over \$5.8 billion each year. Domestic violence happens

during dating and in marriages. Children who witness domestic violence at home do poorly in school, use drugs and alcohol at an early age, and are more likely to engage in violent behavior themselves. Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.

As a former prosecutor and judge, I founded the Congressional Victim Rights Caucus to advocate for crime victims. I sponsored H. Res. 590 to declare October 2007 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. October will raise awareness of the increasing number of abusers who murder their victims and then take their own lives, in addition to the financial strain experienced by domestic violence victims, including loss of employment and loss of housing. In October, thousands of victim advocacy organizations, State coalitions, and community groups will hold events to bring awareness to the violence that affects men, women, and children every single year. Community awareness about domestic violence allows victims to seek help—it creates shelters for domestic violence victims to seek refuge in, holds abusers accountable, and helps children live in nonviolent homes.

In the past, Congress's support of this month has led to an increasing number of local community groups, religious organizations, health care providers, corporations, and media addressing domestic violence in communities.

Congress has been instrumental in increasing the funding for programs located under the Violence Against Women Act, VAWA, but there is still a need for further awareness of domestic violence. Let's send a message to domestic violence victims that Congress is their voice. And that's just the way it is.

HONORING 10TH DISTRICT SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor those who wear the uniform and serve their Nation in the U.S. armed services. We have more than 1.3 million active duty troops stationed throughout the world, and we owe these men and women much for their dedication and service. As a Naval Reserve intelligence officer who just returned from 2 weeks of active duty in August, I would also like to thank those who serve in our military's Reserve forces. More than 800,000 Americans serve in the seven Reserve branches, including the Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve.

Several weeks ago, I learned of one individual in my district that demonstrates the strong commitment to community and country that every Reserve enlisted person and officer has.

Tom Baier resides in Libertyville, IL, where the 53-year-old doctor has an orthopedic surgery practice. He serves as a team physician for several local youth sports teams, as well as a teacher for other doctors for arthroscopic ACL reconstruction surgery.

Dr. Baier's son Mike enlisted in the Marine Corps last spring and is currently stationed in Iraq. In part because of his son's service and his specialized surgical knowledge, Dr. Baier joined the Army Reserve's medical corps. On August 9, he was commissioned as a major and will report for training in the coming months.

Like many serving in our Reserve forces, Dr. Baier brings with him an expertise that will be an incredible asset to our military. Our men and women in the military deserve nothing but the finest medical care possible and I am grateful that we have individuals like Dr. Baier to provide that care. For all the men and women serving in the 10th Congressional District, from active duty to Reserve, as well as their families, we are honored by your sacrifices and selfless dedication to the Nation. We are a stronger country because of individuals like Dr. Baier.

HONORING BOB MIZER

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bob Mizer on the occasion of his becoming an honorary member of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department, VVFD.

Mr. Mizer is a 1964 graduate of the United States Naval Academy. A retired naval officer, he moved to Fairfax County, VA, in 1979 and has been an exemplary model of service within the county ever since.

In July 2000, he took the position of volunteer liaison for the VVFD. The VVFD is a volunteer organization that works in conjunction with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department in order to provide the fire department with supplemental staffing, as well as additional units such as an ambulance and engine. VVFD owns and maintains the station and its equipment, while Fairfax County provides 24-hour staffing with paid firefighters and paramedics on three shifts.

Mr. Mizer left his position as volunteer liaison on September 4, 2007, but will continue as president of the Burke Volunteer Fire Department.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to Bob Mizer for his years of service and dedication to the VVFD. The events of September 11, 2001 serve as a reminder of the sacrifices our emergency service workers make for us each day. These individuals' continuous efforts on behalf of Fairfax County citizens are paramount to preserving security, law and order throughout our community. Their selfless acts of heroism truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mr. Mizer, and congratulating him on being named an honorary member of the Vienna Volunteer Fire Department.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MITCHELL ROSENTHAL

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call your attention to the life and work of an outstanding individual whom I feel fortunate to have known. The late Dr. Mitchell Rosenthal of Vauxhall, NJ, passed away suddenly in May at the age of 58.

For people who did not know Dr. Rosenthal, he was part of the small group of founders of the National Head Injury Foundation, now known as the Brain Injury Association of America. Traumatic brain injury is the leading cause of death and disability among young Americans in the United States.

During his renowned life, Dr. Rosenthal was the Chief Operating Officer for Kessler Medical Rehabilitation Research and Education Corporation in West Orange, NJ, and Professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey.

He also served on several committees and boards dedicated to brain injury research and education, including the TBI National Database Center, funded by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, and the American Psychological Association. Further, he served as the President of the American Congress of Rehabilitation Medicine in 1992.

Dr. Rosenthal received many awards during his career; he published more than 80 peer-reviewed articles, books, and book chapters, and he delivered more than 200 presentations at major national and international meetings, primarily related to brain injury rehabilitation.

As co-chair of the Congressional Brain Injury Task Force, I had the privilege of working with Dr. Rosenthal on the issues of TBI education, services and research funding here in Congress.

The brain injury community has lost a great advocate. Dr. Rosenthal will be deeply missed by those who knew him, and by those whose lives he has bettered through his dedication to brain injury research and education.

He leaves a legacy of true leadership, intellectual honesty, and total commitment to others. I would like to offer my condolences to the Rosenthal family, his wife Margaret, and his children Michelle and David.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the efforts of dedicated community servants like Dr. Mitchell Rosenthal.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, everyone gathered this evening, Mitchell's family and friends, and me in recognizing the late Dr. Mitchell Rosenthal's outstanding service to his community.

ELEVENTH ANNUAL ROTORFEST

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Eleventh Annual Rotorfest

presented by the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center.

Every October more than 12,000 people gather at the Brandywine Airport in West Chester, Pennsylvania for Rotorfest, a weekend festival devoted to promoting rotary flight mechanics. This year's festival takes place on October 13th and 14th.

This year's All Helicopter Air Show features the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Parachute Demonstration Team, known as the Black Daggers.

There are three shows a day featuring military and civilian helicopters performing choreographed flight demonstrations.

The American Helicopter Museum and Education Center is committed to preserving the history of rotary flight mechanics.

The museum is dedicated to educating the public with programs about the principles of flight, the innovators of aviation and to encourage future scientists and innovators.

The museum features eight hands-on helicopters where visitors can test their flying skills.

This year the museum features the only V-22 Osprey on exhibit in the world. New to the museum's collection this year is a Boeing M360, an experimental, all composite helicopter that came close to breaking the world's speed record.

I am pleased to celebrate the eleventh year of this festival that is fun for all ages. I am thankful to the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center for their dedication to preserving the history and promoting the future of rotary based flight.

I ask that everyone to join me in commending the American Helicopter Museum and Education Center for their commitment to educating and entertaining the public.

HONORING HARRIS SAUL NUSSBAUM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Harris Nussbaum, who is being recognized as the first Our Children's Hero honoree by the If Given a Chance Foundation during their first annual "Chance Encounter" event. Mr. Nussbaum is being honored for his remarkable work and the positive contributions he has made in the lives of young people in the Napa Valley and beyond.

If Given a Chance was founded in 1994 by a group of concerned Napa citizens who wanted to find ways to help address the myriad problems young people face. In 1995, they made their first awards to a diverse group of young adults who had overcome unusual challenges, including a young single mother, former gang members, and a young man with cerebral palsy. Now, If Given a Chance annually awards \$150,000 in scholarships to young people from around the region.

Mr. Nussbaum has been a positive and influential force in the lives of Napa's children for many years. He has been a teacher, help-

ing students overcome the hurdles in their lives. He has founded or directed countless programs to support peer tutoring and community service for young people. His work has enabled people of all ages in our community to take control of their lives, and to reach out and help others who may need support.

Mr. Nussbaum has also been tireless in his work with a wide ranging group of organizations benefiting our community. I have been personally privileged to see the work he did as a founding member and president of Aldea, helping to provide for some of the area's neediest children. As an advisor to the California legislature on educational policy and community service programming, he has lent his expertise to our State's policy makers. He has been of the greatest service to Napa County, serving on the Commissions on Children, Youth and Families; Mental Health Services Act Advisory Board; and the Opera House Board.

Madam Speaker, at this time it is appropriate that we recognize Mr. Harris Nussbaum for his work on behalf of Napa County's children. He richly deserves recognition as Our Children's Hero, and I know he will continue to support the superb services he has helped create for our children.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL PETER PACE, CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize and pay tribute to a true patriot and exceptional leader of our military, General Peter Pace, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, for his more than 40 years of dedicated service to the U.S. Armed Forces and to our country.

General Pace was born in Brooklyn, NY, and grew up in Teaneck, NJ. A 1967 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy, he holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from The George Washington University and attended Harvard University for the Senior Executives in National and International Security program. The General is also a graduate of the Infantry Officers' Advanced Course at Fort Benning, Georgia; the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, in Quantico, Virginia; and the National War College, at Ft. McNair, Washington, DC.

In 1968, upon completion of The Basic School, Quantico, Virginia, General Pace was assigned to the 2d Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division in the Republic of Vietnam, serving first as a Rifle Platoon Leader and subsequently as Assistant Operations Officer. He joined his platoon, their third platoon leader in as many weeks, during the battle for Hue City. He was decorated for valor during his tour in Vietnam, yet General Pace holds as one of his most valued treasures the photo of LCpl Guido Farinero, the first Marine he lost in combat. The lance corporal's forever young likeness is under the glass on General Pace's desk, each day reminding him of the impact of his decisions as a military leader. Following

Vietnam, he was assigned to Marine Barracks, Washington, DC, where he served as Security Detachment Commander, Camp David; White House Social Aide; and Platoon Leader, Special Ceremonial Platoon.

General Pace has held command at virtually every level, and served in overseas billets in Nam Phong, Thailand; Seoul, Korea; and Yokota, Japan. While serving as President, Marine Corps University, then Brigadier General Pace also served as Deputy Commander, Marine Forces, Somalia, from December 1992–February 1993, and as the Deputy Commander, Joint Task Force–Somalia from October 1993–March 1994.

After an assignment as the Director for Operations (J-3), on the Joint Staff in Washington, DC, then Lieutenant General Pace served as the Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Atlantic/Europe/South. He was promoted to General and assumed duties as the Commander in Chief, United States Southern Command in September 2000.

General Peter Pace was sworn in as the sixteenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on September 30, 2005, giving him the distinction of being the first Marine to serve in this role. In this capacity, he served as the principal military advisor to the President, the Secretary of Defense, the National Security Council, and the Homeland Security Council. Prior to becoming Chairman, General Pace served as the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from October 2001 to August 2005, also earning him the distinction as the first Marine to have served in this capacity.

General Pace and his wife, Lynne, have a son, Peter, a daughter, Tiffany Marie, and a daughter-in-law, Lynsey Olczak Pace.

General Pace represented the U.S. Armed Forces with great distinction for the past 2 years as its senior military officer and throughout his more than four decades of service to our great Nation. He is a highly respected source of military counsel for our country's leaders, always keeping at the forefront the best interests of our men and women in uniform. General Pace is known for his thoughtful manner, his sense of humor, and his integrity. One Pace trademark we have all come to value is his constant consideration of "PFC Pace" in all military-related discussion, thereby ensuring the President, the Secretary of Defense, the National Security Council, the Homeland Defense Council, and this body of Congress consider the impact of their decisions on even the most junior members of our military. General Pace's leadership significantly contributed to the success of military operations in recent years and improved the security of the United States.

General Pace took every opportunity to recognize the tremendous efforts of the 2.4 million active, guard and reserve members of the Armed Forces, and he likewise recognized the invaluable dedication and sacrifices of the family members who sustain our all-recruited force. During his tenure as Chairman and Vice Chairman, General Pace traveled more than 715,000 miles to meet with his counterparts around the world, and visit troops stationed overseas and across the United States.

Madam Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in paying tribute to General Pace and in thanking him for his dedicated leadership to our country.

CONGRATULATING SANDY INSALACO, RECIPIENT OF THE "LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD" FROM THE ITALIAN AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LUZERNE COUNTY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Sandy Insalaco, of Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, who is this year's recipient of the "Lifetime Achievement Award" given by the Italian American Association of Luzerne County.

A principal of Insalaco Development Group, Sandy's company develops, owns and operates commercial real estate in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey.

He is president and chief executive officer of Nature's Way Purewater, a bottler of private label spring, distilled and reverse osmosis water for supermarket chain stores and other clients throughout the United States and Canada.

Mr. Insalaco is chairman of the board of directors of Landmark Community Bank headquartered in Pittston, Pennsylvania, and with offices in Fitts Fort, Scranton and Stroudsburg Pennsylvania.

He is a past chairman and now a member of the board of trustees of Misericordia University.

Mr. Insalaco has served on the board of trustees of the Mercy HealthCare Foundation since it was established by the late Monsignor Andrew J. McGowan and he served as chairman of that foundation. Mercy HealthCare Foundation supports health initiatives for the underserved in northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Insalaco started his business career in 1957, joining his brother, Michael, in the retail food business. The company grew from one small store to 14 supermarkets located in Luzerne, Lackawanna, Monroe and Wayne Counties in Pennsylvania. The company was sold in 1993.

Mr. Insalaco served on the board of directors of the former United Penn Bank in Wilkes-Barre. He also served as chairman and a member of the board of directors of Affiliated Food Distributors, Inc., Scranton, Pennsylvania.

He has been actively involved with fundraising for St. Maria Goretti Church, the Greater Hazleton Philharmonic Society, the Greater Pittston Memorial Library, Mercy HealthCare Foundation and Misericordia University.

Mr. Insalaco and his wife, Marlene, have 2 sons, Sandy Jr., and Michael. They also have five grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Insalaco on this special occasion which honors a lifetime of extraordinary achievement that has touched the lives of many people and improved the quality of life throughout northeastern Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO FELIX CHIN FOR OVER FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE CONGRESS

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Felix Chin for his outstanding, dedicated, and professional service to the United States Congress.

Mr. Chin's federal service started in 1959, when he honorably served his country in the United States Army. His 3 years in the U.S. Army included a tour of duty in Vietnam. His service to Congress began in 1965 in the Library of Congress' Aerospace Technology Division where he translated and analyzed intelligence documents from Chinese sources on economic, political, military and social affairs in Communist China. He then served as an economics bibliographer in the Library Services Division of the Congressional Research Service beginning in 1969. After more than 38 years, he has concluded his library career as a senior bibliographer and information research specialist and will be retiring in the "Old Line State."

During his tenure with CRS, Mr. Chin responded to numerous congressional inquiries on economics-related research and authored many CRS annotated bibliographies and other information research products for Congress. He assisted in the development of SCORPIO through his participation on the SCORPIO Advisory Group and participated in the implementation of other congressional services such as the Selective Dissemination of Information Service. In 1973, he received a Meritorious Service Award for the large burden he carried as the only CRS economics bibliographer. He also received a Special Achievement Award in 2004 for the creative training he presented to Government and Finance Division analysts in the use of databases in the areas of international banking and foreign debt, and treaties. He was recognized by analysts in the former CRS Economics Division for his research expertise, bibliographic support, and enormous contribution to their work. He is greatly admired and respected by his colleagues and friends throughout the Congressional Research Service.

Mr. Chin received a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from George Washington University in 1968 and a master's degree in Supervision and Management from Central Michigan University in 1979 as a member of the first graduating class at the Library. Mr. Chin is a dedicated and kind mentor; he has inspired many young professionals to begin and continue a public service career.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased to join Felix Chin's colleagues, family, and friends in commemorating his nearly 50 years of Federal service. It is my honor to have this opportunity to wish him well as he embarks on his well-deserved retirement. In addition, I join my congressional colleagues in thanking Mr. Chin for his many years of service to Congress and wish him much success in his future endeavors.

HONORING SUSAN E. COX, NEWLY APPOINTED MAGISTRATE JUDGE FOR THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Susan E. Cox, an outstanding attorney, who was appointed as a United States Magistrate Judge for the Northern District of Illinois on August 27, 2007. A resident of LaGrange, Illinois, in the Third Congressional District, Judge Cox has demonstrated outstanding integrity and intelligence throughout her distinguished career. I am pleased to congratulate her on this well deserved appointment.

Before her designation as Magistrate Judge, Ms. Cox held a wide array of positions within the field of law. Most recently, she practiced both civil and criminal law in her own private practice, and she also spent 8 years as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, as well as 3 years as a law clerk to U.S. District Judge Wayne R. Anderson. During her 11 years of civil practice, Ms. Cox gained expertise in cases regarding employment, commercial, and patent infringement. Ms. Cox's many experiences and talents led her to be appointed by the federal court to assist in monitoring the employment actions of the City of Chicago. She also has devoted her valuable time to sharing her knowledge with others by serving as an adjunct professor at DePaul University College of Law.

As a Magistrate, Judge Cox will employ the same insightfulness and passion for the law that she has acquired in her many past experiences and accomplishments. Some of her duties will include presiding over civil cases and misdemeanor criminal cases with the consent of the parties, conducting preliminary proceedings in criminal cases, and assisting the District Court Judges with pretrial motions, evidentiary proceedings, and settlement negotiations.

It is my honor to recognize Susan E. Cox as she takes a new step in her career as a Magistrate Judge for the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois. Her integrity, experience, and passion for the law will greatly benefit the U.S. District Court. It is also my privilege and pleasure to congratulate Magistrate Judge Cox for this milestone in her life and commend her on her many contributions to the field of law.

TRIBUTE TO NEOSHO LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a group of law enforcement officers whose quick thinking and courageous intervention saved lives and ended a tragic shooting spree earlier this summer in southwest Missouri. It was a shooting that left three people dead and several others wounded at the

First Congregational Church in Neosho, Mo., and it happened on August 12th of this year.

The events of that day startled the Nation, shocked the tight-knit town of Neosho, and devastated the small Micronesian community in the area from which the victims of these senseless and depraved acts of violence came. The shootings occurred during the early afternoon church services near downtown Neosho, with the first call for help coming at 1:54 p.m. Within minutes, officers from the Neosho Police Department, the Newton County Sheriff's Office and the Missouri Highway Patrol were on the scene and organizing a plan to put this nightmare to an end.

Officers arriving first were told a lone gunman had burst into the church and begun firing, severely injuring several people and possibly wounding a good deal more. The conditions of the victims were unknown. Several members of the congregation fled the church and the gunman ordered that other children take leave. But as many as 30 worshipers remained held at gunpoint at the moment the officers arrived.

Neosho Police Chief David McCracken, who was in charge at the scene, issued a command decision that would bring a quick and positive end to situation. Within minutes, McCracken had organized an impromptu team of experienced officers from three different agencies schooled in special weapons and tactics. After hearing another gunshot from inside the church, the seven-man team entered the sanctuary through a side door into the building.

Inside they found a 52-year-old man armed with two handguns—one of them pointed at the head of a female hostage. In a corner of the church, the gunman had gathered around 30 members of the congregation, and positioned them around him. Nearby lay three people mortally wounded, including two pastors and a deacon of the church, and five others clinging to life. As they entered the church, the gunman ordered the officers to leave. They told him to put down his weapon. And, perhaps recognizing his choice was either to comply with the demand or face a penalty similar to the one he imposed on his victims, he did just that.

In those tense moments, officers made it clear they intended to use deadly force to end the standoff. The confrontation with officers lasted less than 10 minutes. Eiken Elam Saimon gave up his handguns and was taken into custody. He has been charged with multiple offenses, including three counts of capital murder. Found inside the church were Micronesian-American pastor, Kernel Rehobson, 43; his uncle, Intenson Rehobson, 44; and Kuhpes Jesse Ikosia, 53.

Newton County Sheriff Ken Copeland said the quick action of the SWAT team saved lives, and I don't have any doubt that he's right. He believes, as I do, that many other residents and civic leaders in Newton County would have been lost without the team's rapid response and decisive decision-making.

Let me add special praise to Neosho Police Chief McCracken, who—as I mentioned—was the commanding officer on the scene. With shots still being heard inside the church, Chief McCracken acted without hesitation to lead the SWAT team in and bring to an end the armed threat, preventing the loss of additional life. Though the events leading up to this tragedy will forever be the object of speculation

and mystery, one thing we can be sure of is that having skilled officers and decisive leadership were essential to bringing a quick end to it.

These men willfully put themselves in the line of fire to rescue their friends and neighbors. The team led by Chief McCracken consisted of Neosho Police Officer Cameron Kruse and Cpl. Donn Hall, Newton County Sheriff's Chief Deputy Chris Jennings, Sgt. David Trimble and Deputy Dale Brashers and Trooper "Corky" Burr of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

These are men of extraordinary valor, but several of their colleagues in the department are also worthy of mention as well. On March 16th of this year, Neosho City Police Sergeant Dan Cook tried to execute, what appeared at the time, a routine traffic stop. Unfortunately, the driver had a handgun ready and opened fire as Cook approached the car. Although Cook was hit in the arm, he returned to his vehicle and chased the assailant down for several miles. During the chase, one of his colleagues—Officer Michael Sharp—was wounded in the face. Another Missouri State Trooper, G. H. Hendrix, traded gunfire with the wanted man. Because of their determined pursuit, the man was later apprehended without further incident, arrested and booked on eight separate felony charges.

Each day our peace officers face these dangers and each day they confront the people who would do harm to law-abiding citizens. Each of these men is a dedicated public servant who knows how to do his job, and was not afraid to use his training and expertise to end the awful tragedies with which they were presented.

Facing a deranged gunman who has already shown the capacity to kill—and the willingness to kill some more—is a situation that requires cool heads and professional training. Not a single one of these law enforcement officers would call himself a hero. But here today, I will suggest that's exactly what they are.

To the praise already bestowed on them by the Governor, the state legislature, the Neosho City Council and county officials, I add a "well done and thank you" for your dedication to your profession and for putting your lives on the line in defense of your community.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that is designed to give comfort to the millions of American families who struggle with prostate cancer.

September is National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Because of the way prostate cancer affects our society, awareness is one of the most powerful tools we have to combat and defeat it. With this resolution, Congress has an opportunity to lend its voice to the communities, families, and individuals who are fighting to find a cure for an illness that kills more than 27,000 men every year.

It is easy to get caught up in statistics when talking about massive health challenges like

prostate cancer, and the numbers produced by this disease are indeed staggering. Over 200,000 men will be diagnosed in the United States this year. One in every six American males will have prostate cancer at some point during his life. Prostate cancer is the most common type of non-skin cancer in the country, and will kill approximately 27,000 men this year alone.

Twenty-seven thousand fewer husbands, fathers, uncles, best friends, and mentors because of prostate cancer, Madam Speaker. This is not a disease that we can afford to ignore.

Fortunately, we are not helpless in our fight against this killer. If caught early and treated correctly, prostate cancer can be managed and overcome. In fact, nearly all patients who identify that they have prostate cancer in its early stages survive and go on to live healthy adult lives.

The problem is that early-stage prostate cancer exhibits no symptoms. As a result, early and vigorous screening is absolutely critical for doctors to find the 27,000 American men who won't catch their prostate cancer early enough, and who will die as a result.

Screening will become an even more important part of our fight against prostate cancer as the baby boom generation comes of age. Males between the ages of 50 and 65 are particularly susceptible to prostate cancer, and this pool of men over 50 will only get larger in the near future. In today's United States, a man turns 50 years old about every fourteen seconds.

As a result, the aggregate risk to our society posed by prostate cancer will only rise as that huge swath of people born in the 1950s continues to age. Our fight against this killer will only become more challenging, Madam Speaker, even as we increase the quality of our screening, treatment, and research related to the disease.

That is why awareness will be so critical in the near future. The more people we make aware of the risks of prostate cancer, the better our chances of curing them before it is too late. National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month is a vital part of this mission. Every year in September, prostate cancer advocates, survivors, patients, and policy leaders heighten awareness of this disease. This is not just a feel-good exercise, Madam Speaker. It saves lives and keeps families together.

In many ways, the growth in Federal research spending into this disease can be traced to the positive effects and outreach of National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. A disease which once received \$86 million for research is now a \$466 million priority for medical researchers around the country. This huge success is due in large part to the tireless advocacy of the National Prostate Cancer Coalition, working with so many partners in support of National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

For the sixth year in a row, the United States Senate and the President have issued resolutions supporting National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. The House of Representatives has never joined them, Madam Speaker, until today.

With the resolution I now introduce with my colleague Mr. LATHAM of Iowa, the people's House will finally be on record supporting the worthy goals of National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Millions of American families around the country deserve the help of the

House of Representatives in their fight against this silent killer, and I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this timely and overdue resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I am writing regarding today's rollcall votes 865, H. Res. 257, supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and 866, H. Res. 643, recognizing September 11 as a day of remembrance, extending sympathies to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and their families, honoring the heroic actions of our Nation's first responders and Armed Forces, and reaffirming the commitment to defending the people of the United States against any and all future challenges.

Please accept my apologies as I was meeting with constituents in my district and was not able to cast my votes tonight. It was my intention to vote "yes" on both resolutions.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT PHILOMENA SCHOOL

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Saint Philomena School for 100 years of educational excellence in Delaware County.

Located in Lansdowne, Pennsylvania, St. Philomena opened its doors on September 4, 1907, making it one of Delaware County's oldest Catholic schools. Since that time, the school has provided four generations of quality Catholic education, touching the hearts and minds of countless children, and epitomizing the school's motto, "Experience the Difference, Commit to the Future".

I would like to recognize the school's pastor, Monsignor David Benz, and principal, Ms. Patricia Walsh, for their service and impassioned dedication to educating the students of the Saint Philomena School.

I would also like to recognize and extend my gratitude to Ms. McKenna, an alumna of the school who has devoted 45 years to teaching, 30 of which were as the 8th grade teacher at St. Philomena School.

I ask that everyone join me in congratulating St. Philomena School on 100 years of great education, recognizing its contribution to the community, and acknowledging the dedication of its staff and administrators.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to travel to Washington for votes.

However, I want you to know I would have recorded "yes" votes for these recorded votes. They included: (1) H. Res. 257—Supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month, and; H. Res. 643—Recognizing September 11 as a day of remembrance, extending sympathies to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001, and their families, honoring the heroic actions of our nation's first responders and Armed Forces, and reaffirming the commitment to defending the people of the United States against any and all future challenges.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CLIFTON J. JEFFERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a former mayor, educator and businessman who dedicated his life to his hometown of Lynchburg, South Carolina. The town is dedicating a park in honor of the late Clifton J. Jefferson on October 6, 2007, and I believe it is fitting that the U.S. Congress honors his public service as well.

Clifton Jefferson was born in Lynchburg on September 10, 1923. Raised by his grandparents, John and Carrie Jefferson, Clifton attended Lynchburg public schools until he reached high school. At that time, he moved to Florence to attend Wilson High School, and upon graduation matriculated at South Carolina State College.

Clifton Jefferson didn't come from a wealthy family, and he had to perform odd jobs to help pay for school. But he had a tremendous work ethic and real rapport with his fellow students. They affectionately called him "Jeff," and elected him president of the Senior class at South Carolina State. He earned a bachelors degree in agriculture in 1946, and then decided to move to Baltimore, Maryland where he pursued further studies at Howard University, Morgan State, and the University of Maryland. At the time, Jeff helped integrate the University of Maryland as its first black student. He stayed on in Baltimore for eight years, but returned home when he was needed to care for his ailing grandmother.

Back at home in Lynchburg, Clifton Jefferson worked in the Lee County Public School System for 32 years. He began as a classroom teacher, became an assistant principal at Fleming Elementary and Mt. Pleasant High School, and went on to become principal of Bishopville Junior High School. He also held positions as assistant director of Lee County Vocational School, now known as the Lee County Career & Technology Center, and as coordinator of the Old Ceta Program, now Project ACT. All the while, he owned and operated Jefferson Funeral Home in Lynchburg.

Breaking color barriers was a common theme of Clifton Jefferson's life. He was elected the first black mayor of Lynchburg, and served his community for 16 consecutive years in that role. Some of his major accomplishments included integrating the Lee County sheriff's department, the county court house, and various agencies. He also brought the first Head Start program to Lynchburg.

During his tenure, Mayor Jefferson was instrumental in investing in his town's infrastruc-

ture by improving the water, sewer, and drainage systems, creating two parks, and increasing the number of town employees to provide services to the community. He also established the first Christmas parade and magnolia festival in Lynchburg.

Clifton Jefferson was an active member of Warren Chapel United Methodist Church, and held various positions on boards in Lee County and in South Carolina. His memberships included: the South Carolina Conference of Black Mayors, National Conference of Black Mayors, the World Conference of Black Mayors, South Carolina Municipal Association, Lee County Teachers Association, South Carolina Teachers Association, National Teachers Association, NAACP, Lee County Chapter of SC State Alumni, South Carolina Morticians Association, Florence Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and the National Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

He was married to the former Gwendolyn Weaver, and the couple had six children, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and all the members of this esteemed body to join me in recognizing the extraordinary work of Clifton J. Jefferson. I also commend the Town of Lynchburg for honoring their late mayor's great work by naming a park in his memory. This will serve as a lasting tribute to a gentle giant, who loved his hometown and succeeded in making it a better place.

A TRIBUTE TO THE PASADENA SYMPHONY ASSOCIATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pasadena Symphony, which will be celebrating its 80th anniversary on October 13, 2007—the beginning of the 2007–2008 season. Since 1928, the Pasadena Symphony has demonstrated musical talent, stable leadership, and remarkable service to the community.

In 1922, Will Rounds, Director of Instrumental Music in the Pasadena public school system and former member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic, initiated a movement for a local civic orchestra. The Pasadena Civic Orchestra Association was officially developed in 1928 by a group of civic-minded citizens and Reginald Bland, the orchestra's first director. Originally formed to promote free music of all forms to the public and to provide young aspiring musicians an opportunity to train through practical experience, the orchestra has transformed from a group of volunteer and student musicians into a nationally-recognized orchestra that has won worldwide acclaim.

Much of the symphony's success can be attributed to its stable leadership. Since its founding, the orchestra has had only four music directors. In 1936, Dr. Richard Lert began his 36 year tenure as director and established a scholarship fund for students who performed in the orchestra. With Dr. Lert at the helm, the orchestra's name was changed to the Pasadena Symphony Association in 1954; in 1955, the symphony became a founding member of the Los Angeles Symphony

League and was recognized with Metropolitan Status by the American Symphony Orchestra League in 1968. The Women's Committee, which recently celebrated its 50th anniversary, was formed in 1957 to assist with fundraising. From 1972 to 1984 the orchestra's reputation continued to grow under the leadership of Daniel Lewis. The orchestra received several national awards, including five American Society of Composers and Publishers awards for adventuresome programming. Mr. Lewis also oversaw the founding of the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra which is considered one of the best youth orchestras in the world. Since 1984, Jorge Mester has brilliantly led the Pasadena Symphony Association, expanding the number of concerts per season and recording its first compact disc in 1994.

Beyond its musical achievements, the association admirably serves the community through educational outreach. Committed to making music accessible to the public, the symphony runs an admission-free Musical Circus for families with young children and offers Concerts and Lessons to Enrich Families (C.L.E.F.). Believing that music belongs in the classroom as well as the concert hall, the symphony partnered with Pasadena's public elementary schools to found Tempo!, a curriculum based program that has been recognized by the National Endowment for the Arts. Through the Mentor Program, in which middle and high school musicians can meet with Pasadena Symphony Association professionals and the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra, the symphony fosters our next generation of musicians.

It is my great pleasure to honor the Pasadena Symphony Association on its 80th anniversary. I ask all members to join me in commending their efforts.

IN HONOR OF HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate, along with my remarkably diverse constituents, Hispanic Heritage Month. I am grateful that September 15th through October 15th has been set aside to commemorate the unique cultural legacy and the significant contributions that the diverse people of Hispanic descent have made to the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, this heritage is part and parcel of our shared American birthright. It is only fitting that we celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of the 43 million Hispanic Americans in this country, people who are making their mark in popular culture, business, athletics and politics. Theirs is the American Dream—a deep-seated belief that hard work can bring a better life and a brighter future for our children.

I wish to take this opportunity to honor some outstanding individuals living and working in the San Francisco Bay area. KQED, a nationally recognized public broadcaster, has named the following six outstanding individuals 2007 Latino Heritage Local Heroes. These hard-working citizens represent the best of both worlds—preserving their personal and family

heritage while contributing great things to the community we all share.

Cío Hernández has brought her language and leadership skills to the youth of Marin County. As the Bilingual Adolescent Mental Health Practitioner for Teen Clinic of Marin County Department of Health and Human Services, Cío is a youth group leader who inspires and motivates adolescents who want to make a difference in their community.

Martín Mora is a professional firefighter in the city of San Jose. In his 12 years with the San Jose Fire Department, he has promoted safety and awareness throughout the community. Additionally, Martín continues his family's legacy of dedicated volunteering by assisting children, women, and families in the Bay Area and Nicaragua.

Guillermo "Memo" Morantes is a longtime community volunteer in San Mateo County, with a special passion for education. As a member of the San Mateo County Board of Education, he continues the fight he has long been waging to provide all our children with the kind of quality education they deserve.

A Health and Nutrition teacher at Dover Elementary School in West Contra Costa County, Tony Ramirez imparts invaluable wisdom about healthy living and environmental preservation to our next generation of leaders. Tony has incorporated outdoors hands-on education into the curriculum, instilling the value of preserving natural habitats such as the local watershed, Wildcat Creek, and teaching students of their responsibility to maintain a healthy creek.

Mary Helen Rocha is another tireless advocate for children and families in our community. From bus monitor to den mother and Girl Scout leader, she has done it all, and currently works as Program Director for The Perinatal Council and coordinates the Antioch First 5 Center permanent facility, which serves families with children under 5 years of age.

As a master of the art of capoeira, a Brazilian martial arts and dance hybrid, Márcia Treidler, known to the arts community as Mestranda Márcia Cigarra, is working to spread hope and opportunity through the art form she loves. Márcia is the founder and Artistic Director of ABADÁ-Capoeira San Francisco (ACSF), which is dedicated to using capoeira as a vehicle to improve and enrich disadvantaged communities and the lives of people from all backgrounds.

Madam Speaker, it is not enough to celebrate this community one month out of every year. All of our Hispanic American friends and neighbors deserve the opportunity to build a better life for themselves and their children. They are the driving force behind the efforts of this Democratic Congress to bring a new direction to America—the real people who benefit from progressive legislation like increases to the minimum wage and programs that make college more affordable.

Hispanic Heritage month is more than a cultural celebration, Madam Speaker, as vibrant and fascinating as that culture may be. It is an opportunity to see the children for whom we have just increased funding for math and science education, funding that will give all Americans a chance to compete in the global economy. It shines a spotlight on the citizens who lack adequate health care, despite working full time. Hispanic Heritage month is certainly about the past, Madam Speaker, and it is an honorable past worth remembering. Yet

this month, let us also look toward the future, and work toward building a better tomorrow for all American families.

HONORING HENRIETTA, COUNTESS DE HOERNLE'S 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Henrietta, Countess de Hoernle, as she celebrates her 95th birthday. She is one of the most distinguished and accomplished philanthropists in south Florida, and I am proud to recognize her impact on our community. Her record of service to those in need makes her a truly distinguished American.

During her lifetime, the Countess has worked tirelessly to support worthwhile causes benefiting young adults, the poor, the needy and the ill. She retains a personal philosophy of using her financial resources to help others, believing that she would like to see the "fruits of her labor" while she is able. She has been instrumental in advancing educational opportunities for the young, art and cultural opportunities for area residents, and medical opportunities for everyone. Currently, she serves on six boards in the Palm Beach area, including the boards of the Caldwell Theatre and the Boca Raton Museum of Art.

One of the first charitable efforts made by the Countess and her husband was to Boca Raton Community Hospital. Subsequently the Countess has worked in support of many health organizations, including the American Red Cross, Hospice, the Habilitation Center, and the Mae Volen Senior Center. The Countess then turned her attention to the needs of south Florida youth. The Countess has also been instrumental in helping the Haven, a facility providing a home for neglected and abused children, St. Joan of Arc School for its expansion and new library, the College of Boca Raton (now Lynn University) for its Lecture Hall, and Spanish River Community High School for a long-awaited theater.

Other organizations with which the Countess has been actively involved include the Association of Retarded Citizens, American Heart Association, American Diabetes Association, Arthritis Foundation, Boca Ballet Theatre, Boca Raton Historical Society, Boca Raton International Club, Boca Raton Philharmonic Symphonia, Centre for the Arts at Mizner Park, The Children's Museum, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Northwood University, Palm Beach Community College, The Palm Beach International Film Festival, Police Athletic League, United Way, the Youth Activity Center and ZONTA Club of Boca Raton. She has received awards from more than 230 charitable organizations and is universally recognized as a major philanthropist.

Henrietta, Countess de Hoernle enjoys being able to give a helping hand to all in need—believing that's what her life is all about. She sets an example for everyone in our community to follow, and I am proud to recognize her today on her 95th birthday.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RICHARD KAZMAIER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Richard William Kazmaier, a native of Maumee, Ohio in the Ninth Congressional District and winner of the 1951 Heisman Trophy as the most outstanding player in college football.

Mr. Kazmaier will be honored at a special dinner ceremony tomorrow evening at Maumee High School, where he will donate to his alma mater a replica of his Heisman Trophy for display in a specially-made trophy case.

After graduating from Maumee High School in 1948, Mr. Kazmaier led Princeton University to back-to-back undefeated seasons in 1950 and 1951. He also led the Nation in total offense in 1951, operating as the lone back in the Tigers' single-wing formation. He received more Heisman votes than any other winner up to that time, and he finished more than 1,000 points ahead of the runnerup. He made the cover of Time Magazine.

And then Richard Kazmaier made a life-changing decision. He turned down an offer to play professionally for the Chicago Bears and decided instead to enter Harvard Business School, choosing the Ivy League over the National Football League.

After serving 3 years in the U.S. Navy, attaining the rank of lieutenant, Mr. Kazmaier went into business as president of Kazmaier and Associates, a sports marketing and financial services company. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1966. He later served on the board of trustees at Princeton University. He was a director of the Knight Foundation on Intercollegiate Athletics. He was appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the President's Council on Physical Fitness, and served as its chairman.

Richard Kazmaier never forgot his hometown, either. The Richard Kazmaier Scholarship Program at Maumee High School has awarded more than \$153,000 in scholarships to student athletes over the past 17 years.

Madam Speaker, it is entirely appropriate that Richard Kazmaier, a two-time All-America at Princeton, will be feted in his hometown, because just last year Maumee gained acclaim as an All-America City. Congratulations are in order for Richard Kazmaier and also for the city of Maumee.

submarine began its first patrol in August 1942 in the Carolines. During its first 6 patrols the submarine was responsible for sinking 27 ships and damaging 2 more and was granted the Presidential Unit Citation for its 3rd patrol. The submarine came under attack on its 7th patrol in the La Perouse Strait between the Japanese island of Hokkaido and the Russian island of Sakhalin and went down on October 11, 1943. According to Japanese military reports the submarine was sunk after several hours of a combined air and sea attack involving depth charges and aerial bombings.

Commander Dudley Morton was the skipper of the USS *Wahoo* when it went down. His relatives and the relatives of other crew members led the search to find the USS *Wahoo*. Through a cooperative effort between the United States, Japan, and Russia, the USS *Wahoo* was located.

In addition to Commander Morton, 79 other crew members lost their lives that day. They include the uncle of my constituent Joann Fisher, Edwin Eldon Ostrander. The names of the remaining crew members are: Floyd Anders, Joseph Andrews, Robert Bailey, Arthur Bair, Jimmie Berg, Chester Browning, Donald Brown, Clifford Bruce, James Buckley, William Burgan, John Campbell, William Carr, James Carter, William Davison, Lynwood Deaton, Joseph Erdey, Eugene Fiedler, Oscar Finkelstein, Walter Galli, Cecil Garmon, George Garrett, Jr., Wesley Gerlach, Richard Goss, Hiram Greene, William Hand, Leon Hartman, Dean Hayes, Richie Henderson, William Holmes, Van House, Howard Howe, Olin Jacobs, Robert Jasa, Juan Jayson, Kindred Johnson, Dalton Keeter, Wendell Kemp, Paul Kessock, Paul Krebs, Eugene Kirk, Arthur Lape, Clarence Lindemann, Robert Logue, Walter Lynch, Stuart MacAlman, Thomas Mac Gowen, Albert Magyar, Jesus Manalisay, Paul Mandjiak, Edward Massa, Ernest Maulding, George Maulding, Thomas McGill, Jr., Howard McGilton, Donald McSpadden, Max Mills, George Misch, Percy Neel, Forest O'Brien, Roy O'Neal, Paul Phillips, Juano Rennels, Henry Renno, Enoch Seal, Jr., Alfred Simonetti, Verne Skjonsby, Donald Smith, George Stevens, William Terrell, William Thomas, Ralph Tyler, Joe Vidick, Ludwig Wach, Wilbur Waldron, Norman Ware, William White, Kenneth Whipp, and Roy Witting.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and honor these brave men that gave their lives for our Nation. May we always remember their sacrifice and revere their memory.

A SALUTE TO ROY HAYNES

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, as Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus and Chairman of the 23rd Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference Jazz Forum and Concert, I rise to salute the lifetime achievements of one of the most distinguished jazz artists in American music history, Roy Haynes.

One of the most recorded drummers in the history of jazz, Haynes has played in a wide range of styles ranging from swing and bebop

to jazz fusion and avant-garde jazz in his 60-year career. He has a highly expressive, personal style ("Snap Crackle" was a nickname given him in the 1950s) and is known to foster a deep engagement with his band mates.

Roy Haynes was born in Boston on March 13, 1925, and, like so many of his contemporaries became keenly interested in music, and in particular, jazz, at an early age. Primarily self-taught, he began to work in Boston in 1942 with musicians like Charlie Christian, Tom Brown, Sabby Lewis, and Pete Brown. In the summer of 1945, he got a call to join legendary bandleader Luis Russell (responsible for much of Louis Armstrong's musical backing from 1929 to 1933) to play for the dancers at New York's legendary Savoy Ballroom. When not traveling with Russell, the young drummer spent much time on Manhattan's 52nd Street and uptown at Minton's, the legendary incubator of bebop, soaking up the scene.

Over the next 30 years, Haynes would go on to play with virtually every jazz musician of note. He was Lester Young's drummer from 1947 to 1949, worked with Bud Powell and Miles Davis in 1949, and became Charlie Parker's drummer of choice from 1949 to 1953. He toured the world with Sarah Vaughan from 1954 to 1959, did numerous extended gigs with Thelonious Monk in 1959–60, and made eight recordings with Eric Dolphy in 1960–61. Haynes worked extensively with Stan Getz from 1961 to 1965, played and recorded with the John Coltrane Quartet from 1963 to 1965, has collaborated with Chick Corea since 1968, and with Pat Metheny during the '90s. Metheny was featured on Haynes' previous Dreyfus release *Te Vou!* (voted by NAIRD as Best Contemporary Jazz Record of 1996). He's been an active bandleader from the late '50s to the present, featuring artists in performance and on recordings like Phineas Newborn, Booker Ervin, Roland Kirk, George Adams, Hannibal Marvin Peterson, Ralph Moore and Donald Harrison. A perpetual top three drummer in the Downbeat Readers Poll Awards, he won the Best Drummer honors in 1996 (and many years since), and in that year received the prestigious French Chevalier des l'Ordres Artes et des Lettres. In 2002, Roy Haynes' album *Birds of a Feather*, his tribute to the immortal Charlie "Bird" Parker, was nominated for a Best Jazz Instrumental Album Grammy.

Of his style and music Haynes' says: "I structure pieces like riding a horse . . . you pull a rein here, you tighten it up here, you loosen it there. I'm still sitting in the driver's seat, so to speak. I let it loose, I let it go, I see where it's going and what it feels like. Sometimes I take it out, sometimes I'll be polite, nice and let it move and breathe—always in the pocket and with feeling. So the music is tight but loose."

Haynes continued, "I am constantly practicing in my head. In fact, a teacher in school once sent me to the principal, because I was drumming with my hands on the desk in class. My father used to say I was just nervous. I'm always thinking rhythms, drums. When I was very young I used to practice a lot; not any special thing, but just practice playing. Now I'm like a doctor. When he's operating on you, he's practicing. When I go to my gigs, that's my practice. I may play something that I never heard before or maybe that you never heard before. It's all a challenge."

"I deal with sounds. I'm full of rhythm, man. I feel it. I think summer, winter, fall, spring,

REMEMBERING THE USS "WAHOO"

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the men who lost their lives when the USS *Wahoo* went down in the Western Pacific in 1943. A memorial ceremony to the 80 crew members will be held at the USS *Bowfin* Submarine Museum and Park on October 11, the 64th anniversary of the vessel's disappearance.

The USS *Wahoo* was one of the Navy's most valuable units during World War II. The

hot, cold, fast and slow—colors. But I don't analyze it. I've been playing professionally over 50 years, and that's the way I do it. I always surprise myself. The worst surprise is when I can't get it to happen. But it usually comes out. I don't play for a long period, and then I'm like an animal, a lion or tiger locked in its cage, and when I get out I try to restrain myself. I don't want to overplay. I like the guys to trade, and I just keep it moving, and spread the rhythm, as Coltrane said. Keep it moving, keep it crisp."

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to offer this salute to Roy Haynes as a true Modern Jazz Giant and a living national treasure and the embodiment of the values and principles set forth in H. Con. Res. 57, the joint resolution passed on John Coltrane's birthday 20 years ago, which has become the gold standard rubric for the proper recognition of jazz and its practitioners.

IN MEMORY OF PHIL FRANK

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize the passing of one of our notable journalists, cartoonist Phil Frank. Phil died of brain cancer this month, but not before leaving an enduring legacy to the people of Marin County, where he lived, and to those of the San Francisco Bay Area and across North America.

Admired by other cartoonists, loved by his family and fans, and appreciated by local historians, Phil was the creator of a host of cartoon characters, the most famous being Farley, a San Francisco reporter on a newspaper named *The Daily Requirement*. Farley's world was peopled by an assortment of politicians and animals, including Bruce, the raven; Orwell T. Catt, feral feline; a collection of bears that ran the Fog City Dumpster and avidly supported the San Francisco Giants; and of course, the high-class band of feral pigs in dark glasses, who traveled Marin County in BMWs, led by their guru, De Pork Chopra.

With these characters and others, Phil targeted daily events in the Bay Area, including the actions of every San Francisco mayor from Dianne Feinstein to Gavin Newsom. Phil's co-worker Carl Nolte, a staff writer at the *Chronicle*, where the Farley comic ran almost every day for 32 years, remembers a good example. When Mayor Frank Jordan once appointed a lowly politician to a high office in his administration, Phil's comic strip showed the cartoon mayor appointing one of the feral cats to run the municipal aquarium.

"But he was never mean-spirited," said Nolte. "He was humorous in the best sense of political humor."

Fellow cartoonist Kathryn Lemieux of Tomales agreed. "He could poke fun at someone without being cruel," she said. According to Lemieux, Phil was also a generous mentor to other artists, always willing to share his support.

He also shared his talent with innumerable organizations all over the Bay Area, drawing a t-shirt design, adding a cartoon to a city mailing, or illustrating a California park system notice. Suzanne Dunwell, who lived for a while

on a Sausalito houseboat not far from Phil's floating studio in the pilot house of the ferry City of Seattle, recalls the first annual Humming Toadfish Festival, which she started. Phil designed the t-shirt, and after the first ones were printed, Dunwell gifted one to Phil. He graciously thanked her, then placed the shirt in a drawer brimming with Phil Frank-designed t-shirts from other charitable groups.

Phil was generous not only with his talent, but with his time. A self-educated historian, he was an important figure in the Sausalito Historical Society, and acted as exhibitions coordinator for the Bolinas Museums' History Collection. "He knew the history of places from the human side," explained Nolte.

One of his most popular cartoons, published in Sausalito's weekly newspaper, exposes the persona of his hometown with well-intended humor. It shows the Sausalito Fire and Rescue squad being called to the downtown park to assist a 90-year-old resident who had fallen off her platform shoes and couldn't get up by herself because her jeans were too tight.

Phil could make us laugh at ourselves. He was one of those genuinely nice guys. He lived with enthusiasm. He made us smile. He is already missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

September 20, 2007—Rollcall vote 889, on agreeing to the Neugebauer (TX) amendment—H.R. 2881, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007—I would have voted "aye."

Rollcall vote 890, on passage—H.R. 2881, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2007—I would have voted "nay."

INTRODUCTION OF THE SUPERFUND REINVESTMENT ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce, along with my colleague FRANK PALLONE, the "Superfund Reinvestment Act," which would reauthorize the corporate taxes that fund the Superfund trust fund. This bill will reestablish the polluter pays principle and our commitment to cleaning up the Nation's most hazardous sites.

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Superfund program was created in 1980 to provide money to clean up the Nation's worst hazardous waste sites where the party responsible for polluting was out of business or could not be identified. Before they expired in 1995, the money for the Superfund trust fund came mainly from taxes on the polluters themselves. The program has contributed to the cleanup of over 1,000 sites around the country. Because Congress has not reauthorized the taxes, the burden of funding

cleanups of toxic waste sites now falls on the shoulders of taxpaying Americans. Reauthorizing the Superfund tax would ensure that polluters—not the American public—pay to restore public health.

Superfund sites contain toxic contaminants that have been detected in drinking water wells, creeks and rivers, backyards, playgrounds, and streets. Communities impacted by these sites can face restrictions on water use, gardening and recreational activities as well as economic losses as property values decline due to contaminated land. In the worst cases, families are at risk of health problems such as cardiac impacts, infertility, low birth weight, birth defects, leukemia, and respiratory difficulties.

Until they expired in 1995, the Superfund taxes generated around \$1.7 billion a year to clean up these hazardous areas. The "Superfund Reinvestment Act" would simply reinstate the taxes as they were before they expired. This will provide a stable source of funding to continue cleaning up sites around the country as well as give the EPA the tools it needs to clean up sites and then recover the costs from liable parties who do not undertake the work themselves.

I urge my colleagues to join me in working to strengthen the Superfund program and ensure that it continues to help keep our communities and our families safe, healthy, and economically secure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. PICKERING. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present for rollcall vote No. 876 to H.R. 1852. I would have voted "yes."

SUPPORT FOR THE JENA, LOUISIANA 6

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a pressing issue that plagues our Nation, the injustice that is experienced by African-Americans in our criminal justice system. On September 20, 2007, rallies were held across the Nation in honor of what we have come to know as the "Jena 6." The Jena 6 is a group of young African-American men who were charged with attempted murder for a school yard fight with a Caucasian male in Jena, Louisiana.

Before the school yard fight that put the 6 African American students in jail, 3 Caucasian students hung nooses from a tree on in the school. These students were suspended from school but never were charged with any crime. Another Caucasian student involved in a different school yard fight was charged with battery and was placed on probation.

Yet, when the Jena 6 were involved in a fight injuring one of the Caucasian students, the 6 high school students were charged with attempted second-degree murder and other serious assault charges.

Prior to the incident, LaSalle Parish Attorney Reed Walter was quoted as telling students who protested the displays of nooses at their school that they should stop complaining about "innocent pranks" and that he could "end their lives with the stroke of a pen." It appears he has attempted to do just this in the case of these 6 students.

The inflated charges against the Jena 6 could lead to years in prison and a lifetime of trying to rebuild their lives after they are finally released.

Let me be clear, I do not condone the actions of the Jena 6 in any way; I believe that they should be punished. However, the punishment should fit the actual crime. It is clear that these 6 students were treated differently from their Caucasian counterparts. I can only conclude that the harsher sentences for the Jena 6 appear to be based on the color of their skin and that is why they have become a symbol of the gross racial inequality that exists in our criminal justice system.

The Jena 6 have brought to light an issue that is of grave concern, people should not be charged with crimes based on the color of their skin, rather, they should be charged based on action and action alone.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask that this Congress not turn a blind eye to the Jena 6. Rather, this Congress should take immediate action to ensure that justice is being equally applied to all Americans and correct the racial disparities that haunt our courtrooms and prisons.

THE IMPORTANCE OF REAUTHORIZING THE STATE CHILDREN'S HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge the timely reauthorization of the Children's Health and Medicare Protection Act.

Unless the President signs the bipartisan, bicameral conference report that will be sent to him before the end of this fiscal year, the State Children's Health Insurance Program will fail to be funded in a timely manner.

As a result, several states will experience immediate budget shortages and may be unable to cover the health care expenses of thousands of uninsured children.

Texas has the highest rate of uninsured children in the Nation. Twenty-five percent of Texas kids have no health insurance.

The Federal Government and executive branch are in a position to help by refunding SCHIP so that states can enroll uninsured children into the program. These are children of the working poor.

Madam Speaker, I represent an urban area, and many of my constituents live in poverty. They face tough decisions regarding shift work, child- and dependent care options, transportation challenges, and even how to afford healthy meals for their families. Many are the working poor.

My constituents depend on SCHIP funds for a continuity of health care for their children to which they would not otherwise have access. I am gravely concerned about how they will be

affected, should federal funds suddenly dry up.

For some, it could be a matter of life or death. For my constituents, I urge Congress and the President to work together to protect this valuable program. The Congressional Black Caucus is dedicated to this issue, and I thank the Chair for bringing attention to the health of our Nation's children.

EULOGY FOR SADIE MAE GROVE

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, Rev. Bishop, it is a privilege to be invited to honor and celebrate the life of Sadie Mae Grove at her homegoing today from Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church, Toledo, Ohio, September 21, 2007. Thank you all for allowing me to participate. In this church, we can all feel the love she shared with us as we comfort one another at this time of great bereavement.

Once in a while, human beings gain a glimpse of heaven in the people we meet. Sadie Grove was such a person.

She was loving, joyful, strong, kind, generous. And she was wise. To her beloved daughter Louise, lifelong friend Ada Mae McQueen, chosen brothers Freddie and Booker, precious granddaughters Natasha and Cassandra, great-grandchildren Tyrin and Deiondre, blessed family, friends and colleagues—our community extends its deepest sympathy. Grief is such a heavy load. Believe me, as I know from personal experience, Sadie's strength will help carry you now. Rev. Bishop, Sadie drew enormous strength in knowing you would help carry her home today. She is grateful that we are all here at this moment.

In life, some persons are of such strength and texture, the power of their personhood sets a standard of character, not just for their family, but for the broader community. Sadie was a woman of character. Our community has been shaped and imbued with her nature—smiling, caring, building, nurturing others, all of us—a woman of deep faith, abiding hope, and selfless charity. In some faiths, a smile is regarded as a charity. Surely, angels of all persuasions welcome Sadie today as we recall her welcoming smile, extending from ear to ear. She gave us her warm, encouraging hugs, and her gusto, guts, and grace.

Sadie did not lead an easy life. Yet she took joy and gave joy in her journey. She was a woman from the working class of people who had to make her own way. Can you imagine the back-breaking discipline it took for a woman to work for 30 years in the old Jeep paint shop, not the new one . . . on her feet, day in and day out, many times working overtime, working with mainly men when she began. She had to be one of the few women with that experience. Then, due to her skills and personality, she moved to the UAW job training facility at the Jeep unit of the United Auto Workers Local 12. It was there I first met her with now Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken. Imagine all the lives she touched, helping people transition from auto manufacturing to other fields as the bad economy that has plagued us yielded more termi-

nations and layoffs. She assisted her co-workers, day after day. How hard it must have been to draw the strength to touch each life, one after the other, to give people hope. She helped lead them to a new road forward. That is what Sadie did.

Sadie effectively connected to the world beyond her family—she was a full citizen. She embraced local, state, and national politics. I can't remember a time when Sadie wasn't there—at NAACP, the Fraternal Order of Police, The Perry Burroughs Democratic Club, the United Auto Workers, the Elks, and as a steward of her cherished church, Mt. Pilgrim. She was a member of the Senior Usher Board #1. I thought number one meant she was the most senior, for we in Congress respect seniority, but in any case she was #1 to all of us. She was a pillar of this church. Where would our community be without this church community? Imagine Toledo without this church. There would be a huge vacuum here. She helped fill that space. I can still see her scurrying to greet me whenever I visited this church. For how many other visitors did she do that? She always waited for me in that back hall. It was there she first shared with me her dream for the housing development for this church and she lived to know it was completed. The treasurer of your church just told me that the \$1.7 million addition the church accomplished was to have been paid in 15 years. Sadie headed the stewardship committee, and the loan was paid off in 5 years and 7 months. Yes, you and we, could depend on Sadie.

Sadie made us strong just by being with us. How blessed we all have been to have known her and shared her life. May her family, friends, and our entire community be grateful for her life and, in her memory, may you be given Godspeed in the days and years ahead.

A poem by Nancy Wood entitled "Earth Prayers" brings us comfort as we honor the life of Sadie Grove:

A long time I have lived with you
And now we must be going
Separately to be together.
Perhaps I shall be the wind
To blur your smooth waters
So that you do not see your face too much.
Perhaps I shall be the star
To guide your uncertain wings so that you
have direction in the night.
Perhaps I shall be the fire
To separate your thoughts
So that you do not give up.
Perhaps I shall be the rain
To open up the earth
So that your seed may fall.
Perhaps I shall be the stream
To play a song on the rock
So that you are not alone.
Perhaps I shall be a new mountain
So that you always have a home.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 19, 2007, I had a meeting at the White House and was unable to make it to the Capitol for one vote. I would have voted "yea" in favor of "The Food and

Drug Administration Amendments Bill" (H.R. 3580).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 3580, I would have supported this legislation. Unfortunately, I was meeting with the President of the United States during the time the vote was held.

RECOGNIZING THE FORT PIERCE ELKS LODGE 1520

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize the members of the Fort Pierce Elks Lodge 1520 in Fort Pierce, FL, for their contributions to our service men and women and to congratulate the Lodge for the commendation they have received within the Elks community.

Over the past 3 years, the Fort Pierce Elks Lodge has implemented an outstanding veteran's services program. Through their overseas military outreach program, "Operation Desert Elk," the Lodge collects various sundry items and creates care packages for troops in Afghanistan and Iraq. These packages provide a touch of home for our brave soldiers who are serving in such hostile environments. To date, over 1,400 packages valued at over \$50,000 have been mailed overseas.

At home, the Lodge provides ongoing support to our hospitalized veterans at the West Palm Beach, FL, Veteran's Affairs Medical Center and at local State nursing homes. Clothing, books, and board games as well as monetary donations to support recreational therapy programs are provided on a continual basis. The Lodge has also adopted veterans in nursing homes and provided visitation, greeting cards and meals.

I am honored to recognize the exceptional individuals who make up the membership of the Fort Pierce Elks Lodge 1520 and the incredible services they provide for our service men and veterans.

FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, a little over twelve years ago, on September 13, 1995, Clinton Administration officials played a critical role in addressing a pressing issue in the Balkans and Europe. With American-led mediation, our longstanding friend, ally and strategic partner Greece signed an Interim Accord at the United Nations in New York with the

newly-established former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, a state that emerged from the disintegration of former Yugoslavia.

This agreement paved the way for the normalization of relations between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Following the signing of this Interim Accord, Greece, like the United States, strongly supported the newly established state, both politically and economically. Greece fully backed FYROM's aspirations to join the key institutions of the European and Euro-Atlantic community, and Greece became the number one investor in that country, with \$1.1 billion invested capital.

Unfortunately, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia has not fully reciprocated these gestures and I am concerned about unacceptable propaganda impugning Greece's history and cultural heritage. It is critical that Skopje address this propaganda and show increased flexibility during the ongoing U.N. negotiations, with a view to finding a mutually acceptable solution on the name issue. Resolution of this issue is not just a bilateral issue with Greece, but has regional and international dimensions.

As Chairman of the Europe Subcommittee in the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, I have been working in a bipartisan fashion with the subcommittee's ranking member, Congressman ELTON GALLEGLY to support efforts to resolve this long-standing issue, including introducing House Resolution 356. This resolution expresses the sense of this House that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should not violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the FYROM and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda" and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for the FYROM.

House Resolution 356 already has 73 cosponsors and I would urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to cosponsor this resolution and urge authorities in Skopje to join Athens and meet their obligations deriving from the U.S.-brokered Interim Accord.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SPIRIT OF JOYCE SNOWFEATHER MAHANEY AS THE 20TH AMERICAN INDIAN INTERTRIBAL ASSOCIATION POWWOW IS CELEBRATED

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and spirit of Joyce Snowfeather Mahaney who, on June 23, 2006, passed from this life at the age of 59 years and "started her westward journey."

Joyce Mahaney was born January 31st, 1947 on the Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota of Chippewa parents, Alexander and Mary Frederick. Joyce was given the Indian Name "Snowfeather" as she was born during a snowstorm. Her father died when she was a toddler and her mother and other tribal members raised her. Inquisitive and always proud of her American Indian heritage, Joyce was well-schooled in the Tribal Customs and

Laws. After completing high school on the Reservation, she attended Minot State College where she completed a Baccalaureate Degree in Education with a Minor in Library Science and Sociology. While in college, she met Russell Mahaney whom she later married, and they eventually moved to Toledo, Ohio, where she remained for over 30 years and raised her family.

Although Joyce moved from the Reservation, she didn't leave it. She continued to have close contact with elders, relatives and friends. Throughout her life she supported her Native American heritage, becoming a spokesperson for all tribes of Native Americans in the State of Ohio and in Michigan and Indiana, in preserving the culture and traditions. Joyce was designated as a Pipe Carrier from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians in North Dakota which gave her permission from the elders of the tribe to conduct special religious and cultural services, including praying with Native Americans on death row. It is one of the highest honors provided to a member of a tribe.

In an effort to preserve all tribal cultures, Joyce established the American Indian Intertribal Association (AIIA) of Toledo in 1988. It was the first organization of its kind in Ohio and the Midwest, and she served as the Director until her death. Her daughter then assumed leadership. The primary mission of the organization is to preserve the Indian culture by conducting traditional pow-wows, presenting programs and educational opportunities, providing culturally sensitive awareness in drug and alcohol prevention and participating in cultural events within the community as well as training through workshops and seminars. A further goal is to educate the general public about Native American cultural traditions, the desecration of Indian burial sites, and the exploitation of sacred ceremonies and cultural identities. In addition, the AIIA provides workshops in the schools and with local community organizations to maintain open contact with social service agencies and participate in the community. Joyce worked with social service agencies in applying the Indian Child Welfare Act by ensuring that Indian children were placed in homes where they would be exposed to their culture.

Joyce was later instrumental in assisting in the expansion of the American Indian Intertribal Association's branch office in Cleveland as well as other Indian centers in Akron, Michigan and Indiana. Although she was Chippewa, she was an advocate for all members of all Tribes and Nations. Throughout her life, Joyce served as an activist in the preservation of her cultural heritage and traditions. She was active in the preservation of sacred Indian burial grounds in Maumee, Ohio in the 1990's and frequently battled with archeologists and museums throughout Ohio regarding the application of NAGPRA (Native American Graves Repatriation Act) laws and the handling of Native American remains. Joyce was instrumental in the development of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Fallen Timbers in which a stone monument was placed in remembrance of the warriors who lost their lives in the battle of 1794. There is currently activity underway by the City of Maumee to name a bridge in her honor at the sight of the Fallen Timbers Monument in which the Annual Summer Solstice Ceremony is held.

Joyce is a published author of two books and was working on a third at the time of her

death. She received an award for her poetry at the Multicultural Arts Show in Toledo in 1997. The books include *Prairie Winds* (1995) and *Spirit of Dakota* (1999), a collection of prose and poetry about Native American culture, spirituality, and life on an Indian reservation.

Joyce was held in high esteem by community and elected leaders, and throughout the years her efforts were recognized. In 1989, she received a proclamation from Governor Celeste declaring May 1–7, 1989 as American Indian Week. Additional recognition came for her establishment of the American Indian Intertribal Association; assisting in the preservation of the Indian burial mounds, the lands and the culture; the assistance in the erection of a historical marker at the site of Fallen Timbers National Park site in which she was also instrumental in the purchase of the battle sight; and her service to the Native American Advisory Council. She was honored by the City of Maumee when she led the presentation as a Native American representative in the "All American City" competition in Anaheim California in June 2006, which was 2 weeks before her death.

As a result of her work, Joyce has left a legacy for Ohio and the Midwest in the preservation of the Native Culture. The annual Pow Wow which will be celebrating its 20th year this year, has attracted several thousand Native American and non-Native Americans to teach and remind us of the importance of the Native American heritage. It's 20th anniversary year with its theme "Honoring the Elders" seems a fitting time to memorialize its Founding Mother.

Joyce Snowfeather Mahaney— Activist, Teacher, Warrior, and Pioneer—will long be remembered for the contributions and legacy she left. Throughout her life, she walked the Red Road. Her own words echo in fitting tribute to this extraordinary woman.

WALK BESIDE ME

You are the warrior and the hunter and I am the humble power behind the spear who will always guide your shield to defend you. And you are the sister I met near the stream.

We sat on the rocks facing the morning sun and cleansed our garments together.

When you look into my soul, you will find the existence of a very quiet and gentle spirit.

Listen to my footsteps. If you hear the sound of refined pebbles falling softly on Mother Earth, it is I.

My spirit can always be found traveling north and south. I follow Grandfather and travel the red road.

The wind blows strong, but my steps never falter, as the sacred pipe protects me.

Come—Walk beside me. Together we have the power to change the world. For I am not your enemy, I am your strength.

HONORING TINA FIELDER-GIBSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Tina Fielder-Gibson. She is being honored by the Flint Schools Youth Projects for her contributions to the students

of the Flint community at a dinner on September 27th in Burton, Michigan.

After graduating from Flint Northwestern High School, Tina continued her education at the University of Michigan—Flint. She graduated from that institution in 1978 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. She started working for the Genesee County Sheriffs office in 1986 as a Corrections Officer. She has worked on the Jails Transaction Team, was the first woman to work in the Jail's Commissary, she worked as a Classification Officer and was the first woman elected Union President.

Sheriff Robert Pickell created the position of Administrative Assistant when he became Genesee County Sheriff and Tina was tapped to fill the position in 1999. She acts as a community representative and works with various organizations to ensure the next generation is prepared to assume the leadership of our community. In this capacity she arranges tours for the Youth Projects Program and area churches, allowing students ages 12–16 to talk to inmates and hear their stories.

Tina is active with many organizations including the Fetal Infant Mortality Committee, the Hate Crimes Task Force, the Interagency Collaborative GISD, the Elder Abuse Task Force/until Disciplinary Team, YWCA Domestic Violence Committee, East Side and North Central Weed and Seed Programs, Strong Families Safe Children, and Safe Schools Healthy Students—Flint Schools. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta—Flint Alumnae Chapter and is a Big Sister with the Big Brothers Big Sisters program.

She has held the following positions: Chair Black Caucus 1985–1995, Vice-Chair Genesee County Democratic Party 1998–2000, Chair Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint 1998–Present, Chair National Council on Alcoholism and Addiction 2006–2007, Vice President Sisters United Incorporated 2001–Present, President AFSCME 2259 Genesee County Sheriff Union 1997–1999, Trustee AFL–CIO 1997–1999, Treasurer New Paths Incorporated 2000–Present, Treasurer Alternative for Children 1997–Present, President Sam Duncan Memorial Scholarship Committee 2004–Present, Youth Projects Advisory Board 2000–Present, Catholic Charities of Genesee/Shiawassee Counties 2006–Present, March of Dimes Flint/Saginaw Division 2000–Present, United Way Cabinet 2000–Present, and the Child Advocacy Center 2005–Present.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Tina Fielder-Gibson as her hard work and contributions to the young people of Genesee County are honored by the Flint Schools Youth Project.

EXPANDING AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 18, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1852) to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to use risk-based pricing to more effec-

tively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Expanding American Homeownership Act of 2007 (H.R. 1852). This important piece of legislation will revitalize the Federal Housing Administration (FHA), which was established to provide a reliable source of affordable mortgage loans for first-time homebuyers. Through our efforts today, the FHA will be able to better assist America's working families by offering loans at affordable rates with fair terms, as we work to alleviate the problems caused by the continuing mortgage crisis.

The lack of affordable housing has long plagued many communities throughout America, and the problem is particularly acute in high cost areas like Rhode Island. In Rhode Island, the average two-bedroom apartment costs \$1172 per month—at that rate, many people would need to work two or even three jobs just to pay the rent. And the situation can be even worse for those struggling to buy their own homes, particularly in today's uncertain climate. Unscrupulous lending practices have taken their toll on hard-working families, who are increasingly unable to keep pace with their ballooning mortgage payments.

The Expanding American Homeownership Act of 2007 will provide much-needed relief for families on the brink of foreclosure. In particular, this targeted legislation will allow the FHA to raise loan limits in high cost areas and to offer zero and lower down payment loan options for borrowers that can afford mortgage payments, but lack the resources required for a down payment. H.R. 1852 will also require that an additional \$300 million per year be placed in the affordable housing trust fund, which will help to provide affordable housing for years to come.

Finally, I am pleased that the bill will double current funding levels for housing counseling services. These critical services will provide additional guidance to homebuyers in the subprime market and others who have difficulty making their monthly mortgage payments.

In passing the Expanding American Homeownership Act today, we have made a commitment to the American people that we will continue to ensure affordable housing is available to all Americans. Strengthening the security of American families strengthens our economy, and I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

IN HONOR OF MARVIN L.
VANGILDER

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2007

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marvin L. VanGilder of Carthage, Missouri on receiving the Outstanding Missouri Citizen Award.

Marvin was born on September 24, 1926 in Lamar, Missouri—in Barton County. He attended Drury College in Springfield where he was involved with the area's first campus radio station. During college, Marvin was a student pastor of two rural churches and became a licensed minister in 1946. After teaching

English, history, and music for numerous years in Southwest Missouri, Marvin was hired as a disc jockey and sportscaster for radio station KDMO in Carthage. Marvin advanced to news director at KDMO and then took a job with The Carthage Press where he worked as the assistant managing editor and co-publisher.

Marvin served his community as a member, and then President, of the Carthage Board of Education. He was also on the boards of the Sunshine Children's Home, the Carthage Crisis Center, the Eastern Jasper County Red Cross, the Carthage United Way, the Carthage Lions Club and the Eastern Jasper County Mental Health Association.

Marvin has authored books on everything from poetry to the history of Barton County, Missouri. On those subjects and many more, he served as a guest lecturer at numerous schools and museums. He received the George Washington Medal of Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge Award in 1971, the Drury College Distinguished Alumni award and was the first citizen of Carthage to receive the Carthage Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year award. Marvin was married on October 15, 1950 to E. Irene Smith VanGilder and they have four daughters Paula, Linda, Leesa and Carla, one son Chris, nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

I am proud to congratulate Marvin VanGilder on his years of service as a leader in our community, and across our State.

IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Representative JONES and my other colleagues in the Congressional Black Caucus, in calling for a comprehensive reevaluation of our strategies in Iraq. I consider the situation in Iraq to be one of Congress' highest priorities and there is an urgent need to establish a comprehensive and realistic exit strategy. We need to offer hope to the families anxiously waiting for news of their loved ones and the men and women who risk their lives everyday.

Next month will be the 40th anniversary of one of the largest protests against the Vietnam War. Over a hundred thousand people marched on Washington that day, and it worries me that the current Administration seems to have learned little from history. A similar discontent can be seen on the streets of America today, as more and more polls demonstrate dwindling public support for this war.

I have always maintained the stance that an adequate case for war was never made and that military intervention should only have been used if all other routes failed. From the beginning, I offered an alternative resolution to war. Although we can never know what the outcome of alternatives may have been, we have the chance now to change strategy and

make decisive steps to developing a lasting solution.

Mr. Speaker, an increase in troop numbers is not the answer. This war, commenced in haste and founded on deception, will never provide the solutions Iraq needs to establish a strong and lasting democracy. We can't secure victory through a war of attrition, and neither can we protect our sons and daughters who stand in harm's way in a war that was never necessary.

It is true that we cannot abandon the Iraqi people. But more productive ways to help them can be found. In the current international climate, we cannot engage in meaningful dialogue on the Iraqi situation while the occupation continues. I believe we must allow the U.N. to play a greater role in the reconstruction of Iraq, advancing human rights and justice within the framework of international law. In my work in this great body, I consistently seek to protect the United States and its people above all else. However, currently there is no absolute proof of an imminent threat. In fact our vulnerability to international terrorism only rises every day our troops stay in Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I am dedicated to providing funding to protect our troops, but I refuse to support the failed foreign policies of the Bush administration, nor any legislation that will lead to more unnecessary deaths. The greatest thing we can do for our brave men and women in the Armed Forces is to take them out of harm's way by developing a clear, decisive exit strategy.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 26

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the role and impact of credit rating agencies on the subprime credit markets.

SD-538

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the impacts of global warming on the Chesapeake Bay.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1543, to establish a national geothermal initiative to encourage increased production of energy from geothermal resources.

SD-366

Finance

To hold hearings to examine offshore tax issues, focusing on reinsurance and hedge funds.

SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider H.R. 2654, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the "Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building", H.R. 2467, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the "Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building", H.R. 2587, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office Building", H.R. 2778, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle, New York, as the "Robert Merrill Postal Station", H.R. 2825, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the "Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building", H.R. 3052, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 954 Wheeling Avenue in Cambridge, Ohio, as the "John Herschel Glenn, Jr. Post Office Building",

H.R. 3106 and S. 2023, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 805 Main Street in Ferdinand, Indiana, as the "Staff Sergeant David L. Nord Post Office", H.R. 2765, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44 North Main Street in Hughesville, Pennsylvania, as the "Master Sergeant Sean Michael Thomas Post Office", and the nomination of Julie L. Myers, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Robert Charles Tapella, of Virginia, to be Public Printer, Steven T. Walther, of Nevada, Hans von Spakovsky, of Georgia, David M. Mason, of Virginia, and Robert D. Lenhard, of Maryland, all to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

SR-301

Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine improving internet access to help small business compete in a global economy.

SR-428A

2 p.m.

Appropriations

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the President's supplemental request for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SD-106

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael J. Sullivan, of Massachusetts, to be Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

SD-226

SEPTEMBER 27

9 a.m.

Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine the prevalence of violence against Indian women.

SD-628

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gen. William E. Ward, United States Army, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Africa Command, Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, to be General, United States Air Force, for reappointment to the grade of General and to be Commander, United States Strategic Command, Lt. Gen. James N. Mattis, United States Marine Corps, to be General and to be Commander, United States Joint Forces Command and Supreme Allied Commander for Transformation, and Admiral Gary Roughead, United States Navy, for reappointment to the grade of Admiral and to be Chief of Naval Operations.

SH-216

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine hard-rock mining on federal lands.

SD-366

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Paul J. Hutter, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine the efficacy of national border security.

SD-215

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine S. 2035, to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S.J. Res. 13, granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding, S. 980, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies, S. Con. Res. 45, commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month, S. Res. 258, recognizing the historical and educational significance of the Atlantic Freedom Tour of the Freedom Schooner Amistad, and expressing the sense of the Senate that preserving the legacy of the Amistad story is important in promoting multicultural dialogue, education, and cooperation, S. 1267, to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, and the nomination of James Russell Dedrick, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine human rights defenders in Russia.

2212RHOB

10:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine congestion and delays impacting travelers, focusing on possible solutions.

SR-253

2 p.m.

Judiciary

Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Google-DoubleClick merger and the online advertising industry, focusing on the risks for competition and privacy.

SD-226

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 1578, to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to establish vessel ballast water management requirements, S. 1889, to amend title 49, United States Code, to improve railroad safety by reducing fatalities and to prevent railroad fatalities, injuries, and hazardous materials releases, S. 1453, to extend the moratorium on taxes on Internet access and multiple and discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce imposed by the Internet Tax Freedom Act, S. 1965, to protect children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online predators, to enhance efforts to identify and eliminate child pornography, and to help parents shield their children from material that is inappropriate for minors, S.J. Res. 17, directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with

other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean, and S. Con. Res. 39, supporting the goals and ideals of a world day of remembrance for road crash victims, and a promotion list in the United States Coast Guard.

SR-253

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (T.Doc. 103-39).

SD-419

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 148, to establish the Paterson Great Falls National Park in the State of New Jersey, S. 189, to decrease the matching funds requirements and authorize additional appropriations for Keweenaw National Historical Park in the State of Michigan, S. 697, to establish the Steel Industry National Historic Site in the State of Pennsylvania, S. 1341, to provide for the exchange of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Pima County, Arizona, S. 128, to amend the Cache La Poudre River Corridor Act to designate a new management entity, make certain technical and conforming amendments, enhance private property protections, S. 1476, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources study of the Tule Lake Segregation Center in Modoc County, California, to determine suitability and feasibility of establishing a unit of the National Park System, S. 867 and H.R. 299, bills to adjust the boundary of Lowell National Historical Park, S. 1709 and H.R. 1239, bills to

amend the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act of 1998 to provide additional staff and oversight of funds to carry out the Act, S. 1808, to authorize the exchange of certain land in Denali National Park in the State of Alaska, S. 1969, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of designating Estate Grange and other sites related to Alexander Hamilton's life on the island of St. Croix in the United States Virgin Islands as a unit of the National Park System, and S. 1039, to extend the authorization for the Coastal Heritage Trail in the State of New Jersey.

SD-366

3:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine cost effective military strategic airlift requirements in the 21st century.

SD-342

SEPTEMBER 28

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of Federal Executive Boards in pandemic preparedness.

SD-342

OCTOBER 2

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine issues and challenges facing current mine safety disasters.

SD-430

OCTOBER 4

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the security of our nation's seaports.

SR-253

OCTOBER 17

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the digital television transition, focusing on government and industry perspectives.

SR-253

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 27

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the fiftieth anniversary of the Little Rock High School desegregation, focusing on ensuring equal opportunity in public education.

SD-430